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OLC 72-0081

21 January 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Director's Conversation with Chairman Nedzi

1. The Director has told me of his meeting this morning with Chairman Nedzi during which he explained to the Chairman the very serious problems which would result from the Director's appearance in open session of the Nedzi Subcommittee. Mr. Nedzi was obviously very anxious to get the Director to appear in open session during his upcoming hearings on security and classification of Government documents, but was friendly and reasonable throughout the discussion. The Director suggested that one solution might be for this problem to be covered by Secretary Laird in his open testimony. The Director pointed out that Mr. Laird controlled the bulk of the Nation's intelligence assets, and noted that any contribution the Agency might have could be folded into the testimony of Mr. Laird. Mr. Nedzi inquired about some other Agency officer appearing in open session, but the Director said this too would create problems for the Agency.

2. This part of the conversation ended with Mr. Nedzi agreeing to review the matter with his staff before reaching a final decision.

3. The discussion also touched on the reorganization of the intelligence community, during which the Director assured the Chairman that he had no intention of relinquishing his responsibility for the running of the Agency.

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